

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 08059 101416Z

43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5042

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, BL

SUBJ: CERP 002: IMPORTS OF SOVIET MINING EQUIPMENT IN 1975

REF: LA PAZ A-136

1. COMIBOL SOURCE INFORMED MINATT THAT ABOUT US\$ 1,231,000 OF SOVIET MINING EQUIPMENT WILL BE IMPORTED INTO BOLIVIA IN 1975. EQUIPMENT ESSENTIALLY COMPOSED OF SOVIET PNEUMATIC LOADERS, MINERAL CONCENTRATING TABLES, CONE AND JAW CRUSHERS, ROD MILLS, ROAD GRADERS, AND SOLDERING EQUIPMENT.

2. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, COMIBOL WILL SELL IN 1975 TO USSR ABOUT 1,000 METRIC TONS OF CONTAINED TIN IN CONCENTRATE FORM. SOVIETS PAY CASH FOR TIN BUT ALSO AGREED TO OPEN LETTER OF CREDIT FOR 20 PERCENT OF TIN CONCENTRATE VALUE (OR ABOUT US\$ 1.4 MILLION AT CURRENT PRICES) WHICH BOLIVIA WILL USE TO BUY EQUIPMENT DESCRIBED ABOVE. COMIBOL TO MAKE DOWNPAYMENT OF 15 PERCENT OF EQUIPMENT VALUE AND 85 PERCENT LEFT TO BE PAID USSR IN 3 TO 5 YEARS AT 4 PERCENT ANNUAL INTEREST.

3. COMMENT: THIS LOAN IS NOT PART OF US\$ 27.5 MILLION CREDIT GRANTED BOLIVIA BY USSR IN 1970 TO BUY SOVIET MINING EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY.

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PAGE 02 LA PAZ 08059 101416Z

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